

Message Text

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44

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 EUR-25 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 OMB-01

TRSE-00 PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-03 DRC-01 /093 W

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R 100947Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2509

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: ETRN JA

SUBJ: CIVAIR: TOA DOMESTIC AIRLINE AND EUROPEAN AIRBUS

REF: TOKYO 3523

1. EUROPEAN A300 AIRBUS WAS BROUGHT TO JAPAN ON JUNE 5 FOR SERIES OF DEMONSTRATION FLIGHTS. MANUFACTURERS (AIRBUS INDUSTRIES) APPEAR TO BE CONCENTRATING SALES EFFORTS IN JAPAN ON TOA DOMESTIC AIRLINE (TDA). AS INDICATED REFTTEL, TDA IS MAKING A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF DC-10, L-1011, AND A300 WITH VIEW TO POSSIBLE PURCHASE OF WIDE BODY JETS FOR USE ON ITS DOMESTIC ROUTES WITHIN A FEW YEARS.

2. COMMENT. OVER LAST THREE FISCAL YEARS TDA HAS RUN UP AN ACCUMULATED DEFICIT OF ABOUT 25 MILLION DOLLARS AND EXPECTS A FURTHER DEFICIT THIS YEAR EVEN IF AIR FARES ARE INCREASED. AS A RESULTT, TDA IS URGENTLY SEEKING REVISION OF GOJ AVIATION POLICY TO IMPROVE ITS ROUTE STRUCTURE. UNDER PRESENT POLICY, TDA IS LEAST FAVORED OF JAPANESE AIRLINES, BEING RESTRICTED ESSENTIALLY TO OPERATION OF DOMESTIC LOCAL ROUTES. (ALL NIPPON AIRWAYS (ANA) OPERATES BOTH DOMESTIC TRUNK AND LOCAL ROUTES AS WELL AS SOME INTER-NATIONAL (REGIONAL) CHARTER SERVICES, WHILE JAL OPERATES DOMESTIC TRUNK ROUTES AND ALL SCHEDULED INTERNATIONAL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SERVICES.) IMPROVEMENT OF TDA ROUTE STRUCTURE PRESUMABLY

WOULD INVOLVE SOME ADJUSTMENT OF SERVICES NOW RESERVED TO
ALL NIPPON AIRWAYS AND/OR JAL, WHICH NEITHER WOULD BE
ANXIOUS TO ACCEPT. TRANSPORT MINISTRY HAS MATTER UNDER
CONSIDERATION BUT DECISION NOT LIKELY, IN OUR VIEW,
TO BE MADE IN NEAR FUTURE. WE DO NOT BELIEVE TDA WILL MAKE
ITS DECISION ON PURCHASE OF WIDE BODY JETS UNTIL THIS ISSUE
IS RESOLVED.
SHOESMITH

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Message Attributes

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